

AL 10-000-1762

MARK SCHAUER
7TH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2207

SUBCOMMITTEES:
CONSERVATION, CREDIT, ENERGY, AND RESEARCH

SUBCOMMITTEES:
AVIATION
HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT
RAILROADS, PIPELINES AND
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

January 27, 2010

Lisa P. Jackson, Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Re: Funding Opportunity # EPA-R5-GL2010-1 — Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
Application from Calhoun Conservation District

Dear Administrator Jackson,

I am writing in support of the application filed by the Calhoun Conservation District, located in Calhoun County, Michigan, for a grant under the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative in the amount of \$793,424.

The Calhoun Conservation District serves as a local steward of natural resources and provides technical assistance to Calhoun County residents in all aspects of natural resource management.

Funding under this initiative will allow the Calhoun Conservation District to implement a recently awarded Agricultural Water Enhancement Program in the Kalamazoo River, Black River, and St. Joseph River watersheds. This proposal would provide for three technicians to promote, assist, and implement best management practices on the agricultural ground in these watersheds, to address resource concerns including sediment loading, nutrients, pathogens, pesticides, and hydrologic flows.

Thank you for giving full and fair consideration to the Calhoun Conservation District's application. Please feel free to contact me or Lisa Dedden Cooper in my office at 517-780-9075 if you have any questions or require further information. I would also be grateful if you would keep my district office informed of the progress of this application either by fax to 517-780-9081, or by U.S. mail addressed to Congressman Mark Schauer, *attn* Lisa Dedden Cooper, 800 W. Ganson Street, Jackson, MI 49202.

Sincerely,



Mark Schauer
Member of Congress

WASHINGTON OFFICE
1408 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
PHONE (202) 225-6276
FAX (202) 225-6281

cc: Joyce K. Frank, Associate Administrator for Congressional &
Intergovernmental Relations

JACKSON OFFICE
800 WEST GANSON STREET
JACKSON, MI 49202
PHONE (517) 780-9075
FAX (517) 780-9081

AL 10-000-1762



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
GREAT LAKES NATIONAL PROGRAM OFFICE
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

FEB 09 2010

Mail Code: R-19J

The Honorable Mark Schauer
Member, U.S. House of Representatives
800 West Ganson Street
Jackson, Michigan 49202

Dear Congressman Schauer:


Thank you for your letter of January 27, 2010, to Administrator Jackson supporting a proposal by the Calhoun Conservation District for implementation of the Agricultural Water Enhancement Program. Improving watershed management practices is an important goal. I appreciate your interest in the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and your support of this proposal.

This grant program is administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Great Lakes National Program Office (GLNPO). It is a part of the overall effort that is underway under the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative to protect and restore the Great Lakes. We expect to begin announcing selections of proposals in late March of this year and to begin awarding grants in May. Applicants will be notified and selections will be posted on the GLNPO website.

EPA's selection criteria for proposals are available in the *U.S. EPA Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Request for Proposals* (<http://www.epa.gov/glnpo/fund/2010rfp01/index.html>). Each proposal will be carefully reviewed and evaluated by a selection panel that applies these objective criteria in what we expect to be a highly competitive program. Be assured that the proposal will be given every consideration.

Thank you again for your interest and involvement in protecting and restoring the Great Lakes. If you need any further assistance in this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me or your staff may contact Mary Canavan or Ronna Beckmann, the Region 5 Congressional Liaisons, at (312) 886-3000.

Sincerely,


Bharat Mathur
Acting Regional Administrator

MARK SCHAUER
7TH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-2207

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AVIATION
HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT
RAILROADS, PIPELINES AND
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

R5 09-001-8106 C

November 24, 2009

Mr. Steve Marquardt
U.S. EPA Region 5
77 West Jackson Blvd., A-18J
Chicago, IL 60604

Re: Funding Opportunity Announcement RFA #EPA-OAR-OTAQ-09-10
Support for Application from Lenawee Intermediate School District

Dear Mr. Marquardt:

I am writing in support of the application filed by the Lenawee Intermediate School District (LISD) for a \$1,459,399 grant from the National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program on behalf of 11 local public school districts in my congressional district.

The LISD is seeking this funding for the purposes of installing retrofit technology on 49 school buses, and replacing 15 school buses. This effort is expected to significantly improve diesel emissions for these school districts' bus fleets.

Thank you for giving full and fair consideration to the LISD's application. Please feel free to contact me or Lisa Dedden Cooper in my office at 517-780-9075 if you have any questions or require further information. I would also be grateful if you would keep my district office informed of the progress of this application either by fax to 517-780-9081, or by U.S. mail addressed to Congressman Mark Schauer, *attn* Lisa Dedden Cooper, 800 W. Ganson Street, Jackson, MI 49202.

Sincerely,



Mark Schauer
Member of Congress

WASHINGTON OFFICE
1408 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
PHONE (202) 225-6276
FAX (202) 225-6281

JACKSON OFFICE
800 WEST GANSON STREET
JACKSON, MI 49202
PHONE (517) 780-9075
FAX (517) 780-9081



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5

77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

AL 09-001-944C

DEC 03 2009

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

R-19J

The Honorable Mark Schauer
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Schauer:

Thank you for your letter of November 24, 2009, concerning the request for applications for the National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program under the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act authorized by Title VII, Subtitle G (Sections 791 to 797) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. Your letter expressed support for the grant application from the Lenawee Intermediate School District.

This is a competitive application process to reduce diesel emissions and create and maintain jobs. All applications will be given due consideration with the criteria outlined in the request for applications located at: <http://www.epa.gov/otaq/eparecovery/prognational.htm>.

Thank you for your letter and efforts to support clean diesel projects in Michigan. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Mary Canavan or Ronna Beckmann, the Region 5 Congressional Liaisons, at (312) 886-3000.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Walter W. Kovalick" with a large flourish at the end.

Bharat Mathur
Acting Regional Administrator

AL 10-000-3264

1015228

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
401 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-2135

DISTRICT OFFICES:
225 ROSS STREET
5TH FLOOR
PITTSBURGH, PA 15219
(412) 261-5091

11 DUFF ROAD
PENN HILLS, PA 15235
(412) 241-6055

627 LYSLE BOULEVARD
MCKEESPORT, PA 15132
(412) 664-4049



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

MIKE DOYLE
14TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

September 2, 2009

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE
SUBCOMMITTEES:
ENERGY AND AIR QUALITY
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND THE
INTERNET
OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEE:
HEALTH

COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF
OFFICIAL CONDUCT

CO-CHAIR:
COALITION FOR AUTISM
RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

I am writing to extend an invitation on behalf of the students of the South Allegheny Elementary School for you to visit with them during your attendance at the G20 Summit being held in Pittsburgh in September. The South Allegheny School District is located in the 14th Congressional District and the students are concerned about the high rate of cancers and other genetic illnesses that have affected them, their parents, or their siblings. The area has been reported in the national news as having the fourth highest rate of cancer in the country.

The American Lung Association's State of the Air Report releases in April ranked the area first and second in the country in terms of soot and particulate pollution respectively. The students would like to meet with you to discuss their concerns in this regard. You will find enclosed a copy of news articles that were published in the local media as well as letters from the students themselves

I want to thank you in advance for your full consideration of this request. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

Mike Doyle
Member of Congress



South Allegheny
School District

Cell: _____

Laura A. Thomson
Public Relations Coordinator

2743 Washington Blvd.
Liberty Borough
McKeesport, PA 15133

Phone (412) 675-3043
Fax (412) 673-4903
lthomson@southallegheny.org

July 23, 2009

Dear Congressman Doyle:

The students and families of the South Allegheny School District are very excited about President Obama's upcoming visit to Pittsburgh for the G-20 Summit, however, they have concerns about recent reports that put 2 of the 4 communities that make up their school district in the national news for both their cancer rate-Glassport has the forth highest incidence of cancer in the county-and their air pollution rankings. Liberty Boro ranked highest in the nation in soot pollution and second for year-round particle pollution.

Attached you will find letters written to President Obama by the students of the South Allegheny School District and newspaper articles detailing the students efforts to gain the President's attention about this life threatening problem. These students all have something in common, they all have or had cancer or have a parent or sibling with cancer.

While the President is in Pittsburgh for the G-20 Summit, we invite him to meet these students and their families and to also see the air quality monitoring systems that are in place at our high school, which the Allegheny County Health Department says are the most sophisticated in the country.

We ask for your help by letting President Obama know about the health problems that these students and their parents face daily. We encourage you and the President to visiting these students, their families, and our school district, during the G-20 Summit or any time that your schedules will allow.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura A. Thomson". The signature is fluid and elegant, with the first name "Laura" being the most prominent part.

Laura A. Thomson, Public Relations Coordinator/Spokeswoman
South Allegheny School District
2743 Washington Blvd
McKeesport PA 15133
412-370-3852

SA students ask Obama for help with air quality

By PATRICK C. DONAN
Daily News Staff Writer
pdonan@dailynews.net

President Barack Obama visited the Penn State Greater Allegheny campus in McKeesport during his campaign.

Now, South Allegheny Elementary School students and their parents hope he will come back to the Mon-Yough region during G-20 summit in Pittsburgh on Sept. 24-25.

For these youngsters, it's a matter of life and breath.

"Dear Mr. President, my mom is sick," Dehlmahre Konik wrote. "It makes me feel sad. Can you help her? It would make me happy."

Spelling notwithstanding, it also would call attention to an area that may have some of the dirtiest air in the nation.

Fine particulates are monitored in Liberty, right across the Monongahela River from the U.S. Steel Mon Valley Works Clanton coke plant.

"The students who wrote the letters either have cancer or have a parent or sibling with cancer, or have asthma or a genetic disease," South Allegheny School District spokeswoman Laura Thomson said. "The parents who wrote the letters either have cancer or have a child (or children) with cancer, asthma or a genetic illness."

Air quality action days can be called by the state Department of Environmental Protection for Clanton and for the South Allegheny School District boroughs Liberty, Glassport, Port Vue and Lincoln.

Those advisories are independent of ones for the entire metropolitan Pittsburgh area because of anticipated spikes in



South Allegheny Elementary School students have been writing letters to President Obama, inviting him to come to the Mon-Yough area during the G-20 summit of finance ministers and central bank governors Sept. 24-25 in Pittsburgh. Gathered around the table in the school library are, from left, Dashaiyah, Dehlmahre and Dehlaaziah Konik; Mikayla Huber; Kerl Konik; Trish and Courtney Woytowich; Nick Ravida and Matt Vasilich.

ozone pollution.

"Glassport and Liberty have made national news for both their cancer rate — Glassport has the fourth highest incidence of cancer in the country — and their air pollution rankings," Thomson said.

Dehlmahre was among those gathered in the school library Tuesday to write letters to the president.

"My mom is a cancer survivor," Emily Atkins wrote. "She had kidney cancer and

we don't know why."

Emily urged the president "to see us and to talk to us."

Other young writers noted how U.S. Steel planned to make \$1.2 billion in improvements to the Clanton plant.

"It came to a halt because of the economy crisis," Matt Vasilich wrote.

"Can you help the mill get money to make the air we breathe cleaner and safe?" Courtney Woytowich asked the president.

Matt's sister died at the age of 18 from a mitochondrial disease. He blamed the pollution for causing that disease as well as cancers that struck "almost one in three people" in his neighborhood.

"We have friends and family who work in the mill," Courtney wrote. "We want them to have their jobs, but at the same time, we want clean air."

Thomson is urging area residents with

See LETTERS, Page 4

McKeesport Daily News The Daily News 07/16/2009
Front

(6-dnb_a004xxk07162009_.pdf.0) Page
4

LETTERS

Letters

Continued from Page 1

a story to tell to send it to her at the district office, 2743 Washington Blvd., McKeesport, 15133, by Tuesday.

The letters then will be sent to the White House.

Thomson said an aide to state Rep. Bill Kortz, D-Dravosburg, who represents the South Allegheny district, also suggested sending copies to U.S. Rep. Mike Doyle, D-Forest Hills, the area's congressman.

July 17, 2009 Powered by
TECNAVIA

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pm

Thursday, July 23, 2009

PITTSBURGH TRIBUNE-REVIEW

NEIGHBORHOODS

'Sick' community's children seek attention from Obama

Letter-writing campaign to ask president to visit during G-20

BY JODI WEIGAND
TRIBUNE-REVIEW

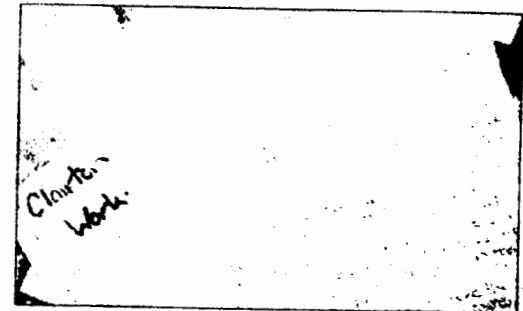
Dashaiylah Konik doesn't know much about the air she breathes in her Mon Valley community.

The South Allegheny Elementary School student just knows that her mom is sick.

"My mom has cancer, and it makes me really sad," Dashaiylah, 7, wrote in a letter to President Obama. "She really likes you, and she thinks you can help. Can you come see my mom? I would appreciate it very much."

Konik and about 10 other students whose parents have cancer or are cancer survivors met in the school library last week to write letters asking Obama to visit their communities while he is in Pittsburgh for the Group of 20 Summit in September.

SEE SICK • II



ANDREW RUSSELL/TRIBUNE-REVIEW

Cortney Woytovich, 8, was one of a group of South Allegheny Elementary School children whose parents have cancer or are cancer survivors writing letters to President Obama asking him to visit and address air pollution concerns in their community.

'Sick' community appeals to Obama

SICK • FROM 1

District spokeswoman Laura Thomson saw the G-20 as an opportunity for the president to see firsthand the communities that have made national news for their air pollution and high cancer rates. She plans to mail the letters next week.

"We're putting names and faces to the statistics," she said. "We want to ask him, 'How can you help us?'"

Dashaiylah and her mom, Keri, who is undergoing chemotherapy for breast cancer, live in Glassport, where the chance of getting cancer from air pollutants is 700 in 1 million, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. That's nearly 20 times higher than the average cancer risk nationwide.

This year, Pittsburgh ranked highest in the nation in short-term particle pollution, or soot, and second for year-round particle pollution in the American Lung Association's 2009 State of the Air report.

The ranking is based on an air

quality monitor in Liberty, which is downwind from U.S. Steel's Clairton Coke Works.

Cortney Woytovich, 8, of Liberty asked the president for federal funding to make the plant safer, rather than shutting it down, because she doesn't want people to lose their jobs.

She said she's worried about the air "because we can get sick from it, and I'm afraid I'm going to get sick." Cortney's mom, Tricia, is a breast cancer survivor.

"I worry about my children and about myself because I want

to be here," Tricia Woytovich said. She's most concerned about the "black dust" deposited on the outside of their home, in their pool and on their vehicles.

"If it's on the surface, then you know you're breathing it," she said.

Tina Goodrun, 33, of Glassport said she worries about how air pollution affects her daughter Mikayla Huber, 10, who has asthma.

"I hope they can help," she said. "The more I know, the more scared I am."



ANDREW RUSSELL/TRIBUNE-REVIEW

Dashaiylah Konik writes a letter at South Allegheny Elementary School with her mom, Keri Konik, who is a breast cancer survivor, and

brother, Dehlmahre Konik, to President Obama asking him to visit Glassport while he is in Pittsburgh for the G-20 Summit.

To Mr. Obama: All I need is the air that I breathe

By Kaitlynn Riely
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Pupils write letters on pollution to Obama

Mikayla Huber is a fifth-grader at South Allegheny Elementary School in Port Vue, but sometimes her asthma slows her down.

On Tuesday, she wrote a letter to President Obama asking him to do something about pollution in her hometown of Glassport.

About 10 other children and their mothers, using pencils and pens on wide-ruled paper, composed their letters at the school. The more people who wrote letters, Mikayla's mother, Tina Goodrum told her, the more likely they would get a positive response.

getting ready for the G-20 summit

Laura Thomson, the public relations coordinator for the South Allegheny School District, organized the event in anticipation of Mr. Obama and other world leaders coming to Pittsburgh for the G-20 summit in September.

Two of the neighborhoods that make up her school district have been in the national

G-20, FROM PAGE S-1

news lately due to pollution, she said.

A June report from the Environmental Protection Agency said Glassport residents have the fourth-highest risk rate for cancer in the country, and the American Lung Association's State of the Air report, released in April, said Liberty Borough has the nation's worst small particulate pollution.

"We wanted to put names and faces to these statistics," Ms. Thomson said.

People have different ideas about how to solve the problem of pollution in their neighborhoods, she said. Some want funding so the Clairton coke plant can install new pollution controls. U.S. Steel Corp., which owns the coke plant, halted work in April on a planned \$1.2 billion upgrade, which would have included measures to curb air pollution.

Local families are concerned about their health and want their worries to be heard on a national level, Ms. Thomson said. They plan to mail the letters next week.

"Children have a lot of faith in our president," she said.

Cortney Woytovich, 8, drew a picture of the Clairton coke plant to accompany her letter to President Obama.

"I hope he's going to give more money to get cleaner air," she said.

In her letter, she asked the president to fund an air quality improvement program for the coke plant.

"We have friends and families [who] work in the mill," she said. "We want them to have their jobs, but at the same time, we want clean air. Will you please help us?"

At the end of her letter she lists her address and her home phone number.

Cortney's mother, Tricia, sitting beside her daughter,

said at their home in Liberty Borough that black soot particles pool on the windows of their house and on cars in the neighborhood. Every day, she uses paper towels to clean off the soot.

"We are all breathing it in and that can't be healthy for anyone," she said.

Mrs. Woytovich said she was diagnosed with breast cancer nine years ago and that many of her neighbors in Liberty have or have had cancer.

Similar sentiments came from most of the women who brought their children to the school for the letter-writing campaign.

Carrie Atkins, of Port Vue, the mother of Emily, 8, and Katie, 4, was diagnosed with renal cell carcinoma in 2006.

Lara Ravida, whose son Nicholas, 15, was writing a letter to the president, has non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

"The high cancer rate is a real concern," said Mark Purcell, chief of staff for Rep. Bill Kirtz, D-Dravosburg, whose district includes the elementary school. He was there to read the children's letters. His sister has thyroid cancer, and her doctor told her she had developed it due to pollution in the air near Glassport.

The president should send in experts to figure out a way to decrease the pollution levels, Mr. Purcell said. Mr. Kirtz's office plans to send a letter to Mr. Obama addressing the issue.

With soot covering her windows and her daughter unable to be as active as she would like due to her asthma, Mrs. Goodrum said she wonders sometimes whether she should move away from Glassport.

"You don't, as a parent, want the choice you made to live here to affect your child's health," she said.

Kaitlynn Riely can be reached at kriely@post-gazette.com or 412-263-1468.

SEE **G-20**, PAGE S-5

Laurels & Lances

Laurel: To all who were nominated during McKeesport Little Theater's 49th annual awards night Saturday. The theater is indeed a hidden gem for the city that produces quality productions.

This past season was one of the best, from the musical "Once Upon a Mattress" and a silent King from the adult productions, to Frog, Toad, a certain talented Snail, the egotistical Robin Hood himself and a high-pitched Prince John, among other outstanding performers for the Juniors.

Kudos also to the producers, directors, costumers, stage managers, lighting and set designers, and all those who work diligently behind the scenes. Every performance should be sold out.

Lance: To all those who must, as one speaker at a Harrisburg rally put it, "lawmakers must take the courageous step of raising additional revenues."

As families and small businesses tighten their belts, so should the commonwealth. As most area school districts were able to hold the line or even, in McKeesport Area's case, reduce taxes, we think state government can hold the line on taxes, too.

Laurel: To the students of South Allegheny Elementary School. Their letters to President Barack Obama are an audacious idea, full of hope that this president might come and see the problem they face every day to breathe clean air.

Lance: To whoever is leaving abandoned furniture at a sign that welcomes people to Wilmerding. As one angry resident told borough council, "It's like it's saying, 'Welcome to Wilmerding, come bring your garbage.'"

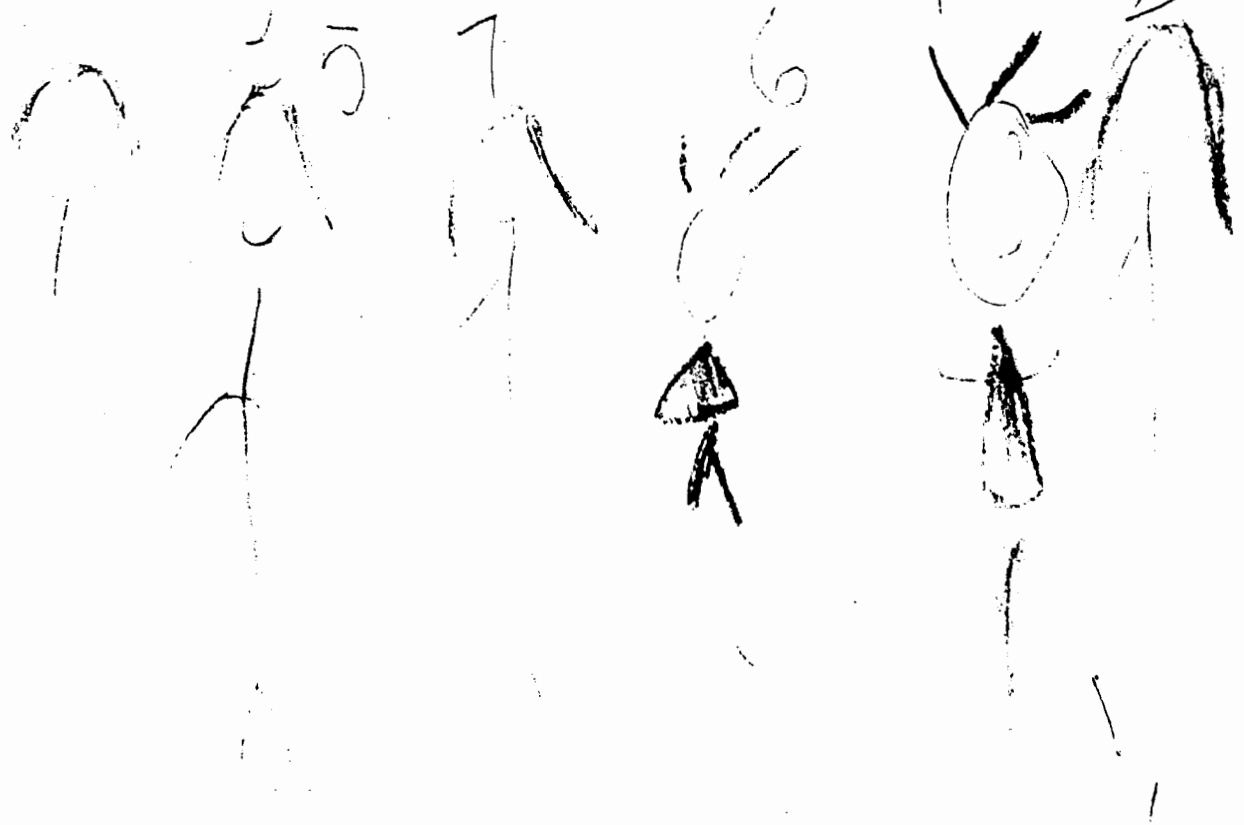
The problem apparently stemmed from one property along Aubrahe Avenue, while the frustration arose from a prolonged code enforcement process meant to give alleged violators every chance to mend their ways.

Laurel: To Anastasia the therapy dog and Laura Sokolovic of Three Rivers Hospice, who takes her to schools, personal care homes and other places, "bringing smiles to those who need it."

Lance: To the Allegheny County Housing Authority. We find it hard to believe that it didn't know before June that Clairton's former Bluff Heights district could benefit from President Obama's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

It would appear it tried to force Clairton city officials to rush a decision with a July 1 deadline approaching. The city was between the rock of going for an uncertain dollop of federal tax dollars and the hard place of having properties available for equally uncertain investment and local tax revenue.

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Handwritten notes and scribbles at the top of the page, including the word "We" on the left and some illegible text on the right.



10

In any 7

I want you to know that I am not

or you are to be kept?

It would be very nice to hear from

Wesley Barker

327 North 4th

Union, Pa. 16801

1962-1963

Dear President Obama,

My name is Exple And I would like you to know that my mom is a cancer survivor. She had kidney cancer and we don't know why. Nobody in our family had it. I felt scared, worried and anxious because I didn't know what was going to happen. I heard on a news report communities around mine had high rates of cancer and air pollution. I was worried it would come to my neighborhood. I hope they fix the air. Please come to see us and to talk to us.

Emily

Exple

8 YEARS OLD

SOUTH ALLEGHENY ELEMENTARY



Dear O'Bama,

My name is ^{Exp. 4} [unclear]. I have asthma. In my first few years I lived in Clairton, then, moved to Glassport, because I go to South Allegheny Elementary School. I found out I had asthma last year. Some reasons why I don't like having asthma is because while I'm playing I get a real bad chest pain, and my heart start to pound fast. I hope you can do something to help stop pollution in these major pollution areas. Asthma can effect my ever day life, if I'm dancing, swimming, or even taking a run. I don't get to do as many things as I could without taking a break.

(P.S.

Can you visit us, and help Clairton, Pa. (our community?)
Thamara H.
M. Rayla H.

^{Exp. 4}

Exp. 4
Elmer, A. A. 1045 / Clairton, Pa. (my home)
(my home) - (my pup - home)
(P.S. I spent time at my pup during the summer)

Dear President O'Bama:

My name is ^{Exp^u} . I am 8 years old
and live in Liberty Boro Penn. with my mom
Tricia, Dad Mike, Sister Jamie, and dog Vinnie. I will
be attending 3rd grade this year at South Allegheny
Elementary School. Our school has kids from Liberty Boro
Port Vue, Lincoln, and Glassport.

I am writing to you today regarding stories we have heard
about the quality of air we breathe in South Allegheny area.
They tell us that the air is bad and can hurt us. My dad
had cancer, as do many people who live or have
lived in Liberty Boro near my home. Is it because
of the air we breathe or the pollution that comes
from the mill across the river in Clairton? If so, can
you help the mill get money to make the air we
breathe cleaner and safer. We have friends and family
that work in the mill. We want them to have their
jobs, but at the same time we want clean air. Will
you please help us?

Please call me to talk about this. My home
phone number is (412) 611-
THANK YOU!

Please come and see us

Sincerely,

Exp^u

Liberty Boro, PA 15133

Dear President Obama,

My community of Mon Valley has been fighting for national air quality standards for soil pollution. The whole community is concerned with how much is really being done to help the situation. The school of glassport is a mile away from my home is the 4th most cancer rate in the country. The community of Clanton wanted to make a \$1B to the Clanton works but it came to a halt because of the economy crisis. The pollution in the air cause many cancers and almost every one in three people have some kind of cancer such as lung cancer, bladder cancer, and breast cancer. My sister passed away at 18 from a Mitochondrial disease and I just think was the one of the reasons why this happened. I advise you to come take a look at the situation and get a better understanding.

Respectfully, Sincerely,

EXPC

EXPC
Port Vue, PA 15133

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Buy *

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Buy Fight

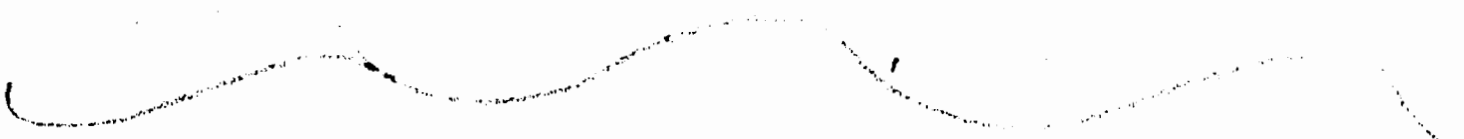
*

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Buy *

Buy *

Buy *



Love

Dear, President Okarna

July 4, 2009

I am ^{Exp. 6}, resident and I am asking you to do something about the poor air quality we have here. My mom was just saying how when she used to drive across the bridge next to the Clairton Works plant the hillside in front of her used to barely have any flora life. I've also heard about the smog that covered Donora. You couldn't even see inches in front of you. With our air being polluted like this really hurts our economy in the Mon Valley. It is a great place to raise a family, but no one is going to want to because of this pollution. It is so bad that you can actually smell it sometimes throughout the day. Every one in three people I talk to either has asthma, sinus problems, or cancers. Our health shouldn't suffer because of the economy. The other day I washed my mom's car and now it already has this coat of soot on the windows. I love this area and I would love to raise a family here but it is making me think twice about it. I want my family to live in a healthy environment. Thank you for consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

^{Exp. 6}

^{Exp. 6}

Port Vue, PA 15122

Dear Mr. President:

Hi, my name is *Gayle*, I'm 14 years old, and I live in Lincoln Borough, Pennsylvania which is close to the steel mills. I have lived in this area my whole life and so has my mom. This area in which we reside is one of the most highly contaminated areas in the United States. When I was 4 years old, I was diagnosed with Leukemia, but I am now almost ten years cured. My family and I believe that one of the main reasons why I became ill was because of the air in the area I live in. I also have a swimming pool and there is mill soot floating on the top of the pool water along with an oily film. Whenever I put my solar cover on, the next day it is covered with the mill soot. In addition to my illness, there have been many neighbors that became ill and have passed on from illnesses that my family and neighbors feel are linked to the air quality in this area. I think it would be a great if there was any way that you could make the air cleaner and safer so kids like me don't have to go through what my family and I had to go through. I think it would make a complete difference in health Pittsburgh.

Another thing that I think would make a difference was if I had air conditioning in my school. I attend South Allegheny Junior/ Senior High and I think that it will prevent and stop asbestos from being in my school. Two schools in nearby boroughs had to be shut down because of asbestos. Neither of them had air conditioning. Those things are what I am concerned about, and I hope there is something you could do that could make the area I live in safer and healthier. I appreciate you taking the time to read my letter and I hope by this I could help make a change.

Thank you very much!

Sincerely,

Gayle

--☺

Untitled

To whom it may concern,

I am a parent of six children and a grandmother of one. I lost my father in May to cancer and black lung at the young age of 63. He never worked at a mill nor a mine, he just lived in Glassport for 15 years. My mother passed away seven years ago at the age of 54, she also lived in Glassport.

I have now lived in Glassport for 13 years. My granddaughter is three years old and just recently found out that she has asthma. Her mother is a non smoker.

A lot of folks around here usually covers there patio furniture at night because of the soot from the mills. In the morning you can see black spots on the sheets. You wipe things off and the water is very dirty.

Yes, we choose to live in Glassport, but the teachers, the school do wonders for my children. Everyone knows everyone, and I'm not worried about letting my kids outside to play. I looked for another home in another city but they just don't have what Glassport has. Our children are our future. We need the clean air to have that future for them!

Sincerely,

Exp. U

Dear Mr. President,

I hope you can help my family
with something? My mom has cancer
and it makes me really sad.
Some times I want to go to the doctor.
My mom really likes you and she
said you can help.
Can you come see my mom? I +
would my mom happy. I would
appreciate it very much.

exp. u

7 years old

When you come to the hospital, can

I am responding to the article in today's Daily News paper about the air quality in Liberty Boro.

I have lived in Liberty Boro for 28 years and my house is on top of a hill. (One hill over from the High School) We have noticed the poor air quality for a long time. It has become increasingly worse over the years. It is now to the point that I cannot and will not let anyone in the family open the windows. We have air conditioning and that does help us to be able to breathe, however if you step foot outside (especially on humid days) you immediately smell the foul mill smell. I have tried to complain over the years, however you get the run around from everyone! Nothing ever happens! No one seems to care!

I have a swimming pool in my backyard. For years we wondered why our chemical balance was always out of sorts. We would take a sample to the pool place, they would recommend the chemicals to clean, clear and bring our PH levels to proper maintenance levels. However we would never get them just right. The amount of soot going into our pool, would always throw the chemical levels off. The pool company asked where we lived and then said..."OH Liberty Boro, That is Why your Balance is Off" Our patio furniture will have specks of soot all over it. When you try to wipe it off, it doesn't come off, it is like a grease soot mess. It is simply disgusting. This is what we breathe! No one should have to live like this.

We have wanted to move for many years, and have not had the opportunity, due to our jobs and to the fact that we would not get any value for our home since we have this pollution issue to deal with. We are seriously rethinking this, due to the severe pollution and no end in sight. I read in the paper that the mill gets fined, but they pay it and consider that to be enough. We should be fining them millions of dollars daily and then they would try and find a solution. They say they are trying to clean this up, but it will never be fast enough and I fear our health with deteriorate way before that ever happens.

Both my sons have had asthma throughout their life in Liberty. (My older son now lives in the Pocono Mountains, thank God he can breathe clean air now.) When I remember back, (an SA alumni myself) going to high school in the 1970's at South Allegheny and when you were standing in the hall....some days you could not see the other end of the hall due to the air pollution in the school itself. That is how bad it was. Back then and now, on days when it is going to rain, the pollution hangs in the air so thick, you could slice it with a knife, that is what it feels like. When either my husband or I get a hint of a cold, it becomes bronchitis immediately because of our weak lungs. We are worried about the cancer issue, since many of our neighbors have had trouble with this issue, (Including a small child).

It is about time someone will help us get this issue under control, I commend you and the students at South Allegheny High School for trying to get our "Liberty Boro" noticed by Washington. Our only hope is that something will be done and

soon, we all have our health to worry about....but if you live in the Liberty Boro Area, you live in the 4th highest cancer incident in the country. That is just unacceptable!

Exp 4

Liberty Boro, PA 15133
Liberty Boro Residents

Laura,

I was very interested in the letters written by the students. After I was diagnosed with Leukemia, I researched some of the causes. One is benzene in the air. Across the Dravosburg bridge, a plant produced rustproofing materials which include benzene. Also, who know what was in the air from the mills in McKeesport and Clairton while I was growing up. I agree that the air quality is a factor in the number of cancer occurrences. FYI, there are also many people in the area diagnosed with MS including my siste-in-law, who grew up in Glassport. I will be watching for any news concerning this issue.

GKple

LISA MURKOWSKI
ALASKA

COMMITTEES:
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
RANKING MEMBER
APPROPRIATIONS
HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,
AND PENSIONS
INDIAN AFFAIRS

AL10-000-4873

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0203
(202) 224-6665
(202) 224-5301 FAX

510 L STREET, SUITE 550
ANCHORAGE, AK 99501-1956
(907) 271-3735

101 12TH AVENUE, ROOM 216
FAIRBANKS, AK 99701-6278
(907) 456-0233

4079 TONGASS AVENUE, SUITE 204
KETCHIKAN, AK 99901-5526
(907) 225-6880

851 EAST WESTPOINT DRIVE, SUITE 307
WASILLA, AK 99654-7142
(907) 376-7665

March 29, 2010

The Honorable Lisa Jackson
Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Jackson:

I received your letter dated March 26, 2010 and have carefully reviewed it. Regrettably, it fails to shed any new light on how your agency intends to implement its pending Clean Air Act regulations. By my count, your letter provides answers to just two of the 13 questions that I asked on March 5, 2010, despite the fact that most of the answers would simply require a 'yes' or 'no' response, or number, or statutory reference. As a result, I am left even more concerned by the approach your agency is taking and the lack of transparency surrounding it.

At this point, it does not seem probable that additional correspondence will elicit a sufficient level of detail for me and other members of Congress to understand what your agency is preparing to do, or the consequences that will accompany those actions. Therefore, I respectfully ask for an opportunity to meet with you in person during the week of April 12, 2010. If you are amenable to this request, my staff will be happy to coordinate with yours to find a suitable time on both of our schedules. In the meantime, if you have any questions your staff can contact McKie Campbell (202-224-5305), Republican Staff Director of the Energy & Natural Resources Committee.

Sincerely,


Lisa Murkowski
United States Senator

AL 10-002-0323

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 8, 2010

Lisa Jackson, Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

Ray LaHood, Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Administrator Jackson and Secretary LaHood:

We are writing regarding the Environmental Protection Agency's and the Department of Transportation's proposed redesign of fuel economy labels, as required by the Energy Independence and Security Act (EISA) of 2007.

As you know, the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (EISA) mandated that the DOT issue a rulemaking implementing this law. On September 23, both EPA and DOT issued a notice of proposed rulemaking.

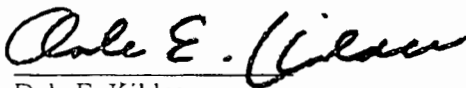
The proposed rule presents two primary label options. Label 1 minimizes miles per gallon (mpg), an objective measure of the fuel economy performance of a vehicle, in favor of a prominently displayed subjective "letter grade". In contrast, Label 2 focuses on the mpg metric and implements the other information Congress required under EISA. Consumers are very familiar with the mpg metric and rely on it when purchasing a new motor vehicle.

Additionally, unlike the mpg metric, the proposed grading system is biased in favor of certain types of vehicles. The "A" and "A+" categories are reserved for a very narrow range of vehicles, i.e., battery electric vehicles and plug-in hybrids. However, a fuel efficient, clean diesel vehicle would be penalized with a low or mediocre grade. Similarly, most fuel efficient SUVs and pickup trucks would rate no higher than a "C+".

We hope you will agree that it is essential for consumers to have clear and concise information about the fuel economy performance of their vehicle. However, Label 1 marginalizes the most important piece of information on the fuel economy sticker, namely the fuel economy of the vehicle. Moreover, Label 1 unfairly promotes certain vehicles over others.

We believe that Label 2 better serves the needs of the consumer by continuing to prominently display the mpg of the vehicle, and is consistent with the statutory intent of EISA. Although the deadline for public comment has passed, we appreciate your agencies allowing us to submit this letter for the public record.

Sincerely,



Dale E. Kildee
Member of Congress



Steve LaTourette
Member of Congress

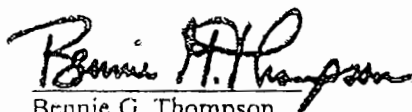
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Greg Walden
Member of Congress



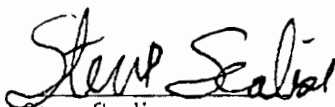
André Carson
Member of Congress



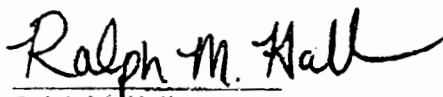
Bennie G. Thompson
Member of Congress



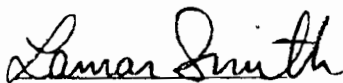
Joseph R. Pitts
Member of Congress



Steve Scalise
Member of Congress



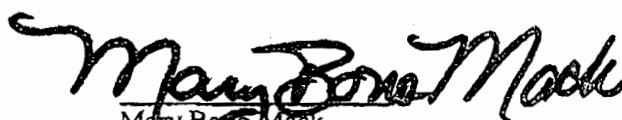
Ralph M. Hall
Member of Congress



Lamar Smith
Member of Congress



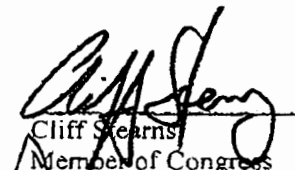
Dan Burton
Member of Congress



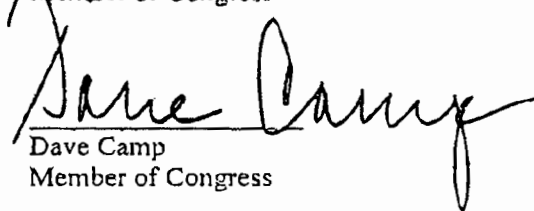
Mary Bono Mack
Member of Congress



Tim Ryan
Member of Congress



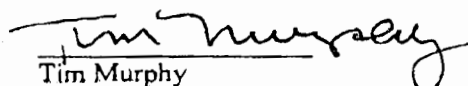
Cliff Stearns
Member of Congress



Dave Camp
Member of Congress



Bob Latta
Member of Congress



Tim Murphy
Member of Congress



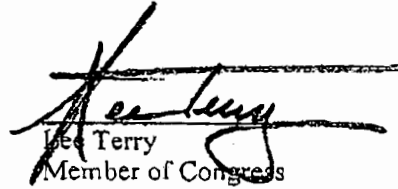
Dan Lungren
Member of Congress




Judy Biggert
Member of Congress



Geoff Davis
Member of Congress



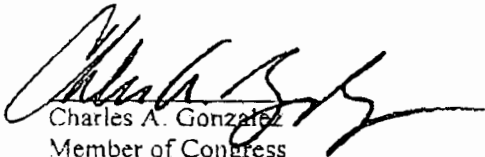
Lee Terry
Member of Congress



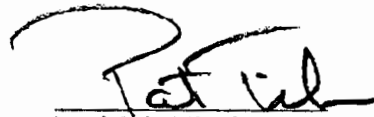
Mike Rogers
Member of Congress



Candice S. Miller
Member of Congress



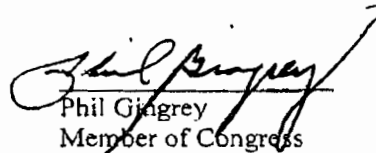
Charles A. Gonzalez
Member of Congress



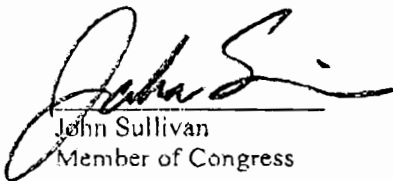
Patrick J. Tiberi
Member of Congress



Brett Guthrie
Member of Congress



Phil Gingrey
Member of Congress



John Sullivan
Member of Congress



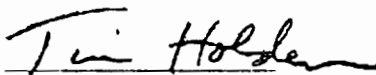
Scott Garrett
Member of Congress



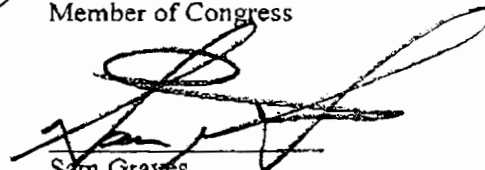
Elton Gallegly
Member of Congress



Jim Matheson
Member of Congress



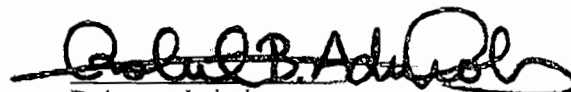
Tim Holden
Member of Congress



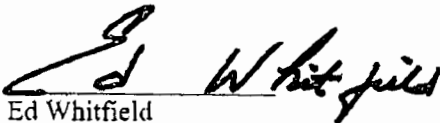
Sam Graves
Member of Congress

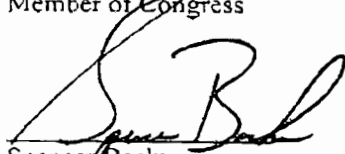


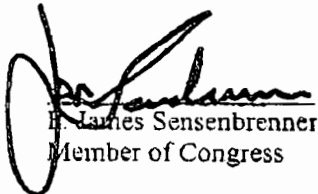
Mike Ross
Member of Congress

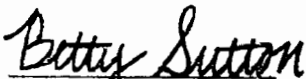



Robert Aderholt
Member of Congress



Ed Whitfield
Member of Congress


Spencer Bachus
Member of Congress

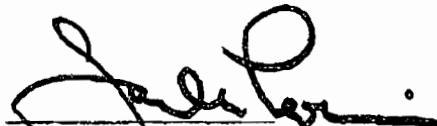

James Sensenbrenner
Member of Congress


Betty Sutton
Member of Congress

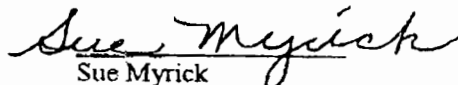

Donald A. Manzullo
Member of Congress

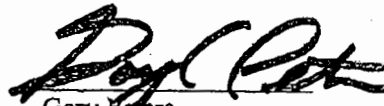

Todd Akin
Member of Congress

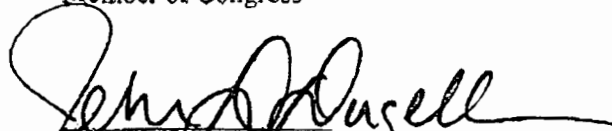

Thaddeus McCotter
Member of Congress

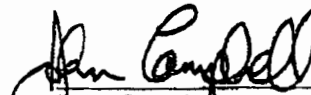

Sander Levin
Member of Congress



G.K. Butterfield
Member of Congress


Sue Myrick
Member of Congress

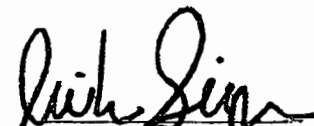

Gary Peters
Member of Congress

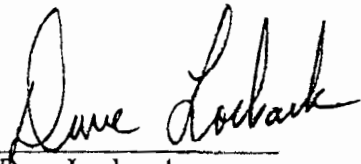

John D. Dingell
Member of Congress


John Campbell
Member of Congress


John Barrow
Member of Congress


Marsha Blackburn
Member of Congress


Mike Simpson
Member of Congress



Dave Loebsack
Member of Congress



Mark Schauer
Member of Congress



Bruce Braley
Member of Congress

AL 09-001- 9734



THE NORTHEAST-MIDWEST CONGRESSIONAL COALITION
GREAT LAKES TASK FORCE

December 17, 2009

The Honorable Jo-Ellen Darcy
Assistant Secretary of the Army, Civil Works
U.S. Department of the Army
108 Army Pentagon, Room 3E446
Washington, DC 20310-0108

The Honorable Lisa Jackson
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

Admiral Thad W. Allen
Commandant
United States Coast Guard
2100 Second St., S.W.
Washington, DC 20593

The Honorable Sam D. Hamilton
Director
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Darcy, Administrator Jackson, Admiral Allen, and Director Hamilton:

We are writing today to emphasize the urgency for keeping the Asian carp out of the Great Lakes. Recently, testing has found genetic material from Asian carp above the electric dispersal barrier in the Chicago Sanitary and Shipping Canal. We urge all of your agencies to work cooperatively and expeditiously to prevent the carp from entering the Great Lakes.

Specifically, we urge your agencies to immediately consider:

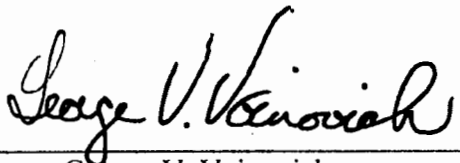
- Implementing the recommendations of the Asian Carp Rapid Response Project. This project is a federal/non-federal partnership of leading experts.
- Closing the O'Brien and Chicago Locks if there is reasonable likelihood that Asian carp are above the barrier.
- Continuing the use of piscicides as a rapid response measure.
- Creating a permanent hydrological separation between the Great Lakes and the Canal.
- Increasing the voltage of the electric dispersal barrier to prevent Asian carp of any size from crossing the barrier.
- Drafting and approving the planned interim reports as part of the Efficacy Study, which was authorized under section 3061 of WRDA 2007, in order for the Corps of Engineers to take action to prevent Asian carp from bypassing the existing electric dispersal barrier project in the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal.

In addition to finding positive eDNA in the Canal, genetic material was also found in the Des Plaines River, north of the electric dispersal barrier. Given the risk that the carp could bypass the barrier if the Des Plaines River were to flood, Congress provided the Corps with additional authority in the Fiscal Year 2010 Energy and Water Appropriations bill to prevent this from happening. We understand that work on this report is on-going, and it is urgent that an interim report be finalized soon.


Finally, we encourage you to carefully consider your Fiscal Year 2011 budget needs for the barrier project and Asian carp efforts. Over the life of the barrier project, Congress has had to provide new authority and new funding on multiple occasions, and a comprehensive, planned approach would be more effective.

There may be no greater threat to the ecosystem of the Great Lakes than the introduction of the Asian carp, and we must do all that we can to prevent this from happening. We appreciate your attention to this urgent matter and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



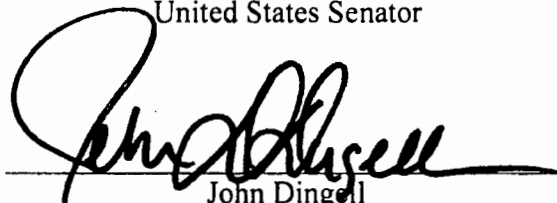
George V. Voinovich
United States Senator



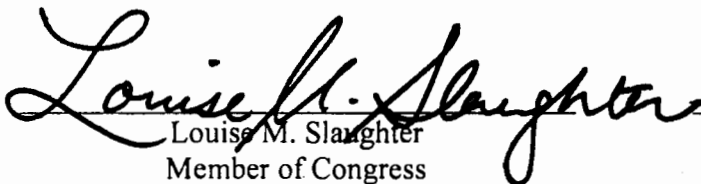
Carl Levin
United States Senator



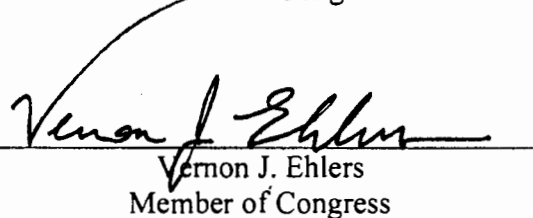
Mark Kirk
Member of Congress



John Dingell
Member of Congress



Louise M. Slaughter
Member of Congress



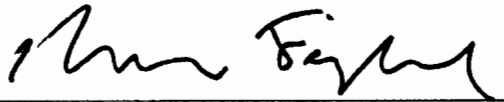
Vernon J. Ehlers
Member of Congress



Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator



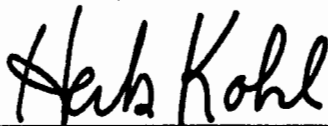
Sherrod Brown
United States Senator



Russell Feingold
United States Senator



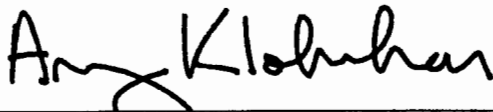
Robert Casey, Jr.
United States Senator



Herb Kohl
United States Senator



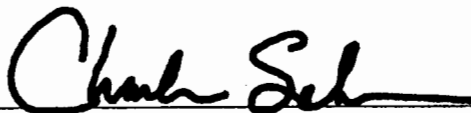
Roland Burris
United States Senator



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



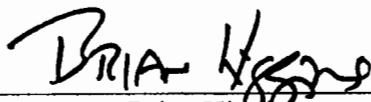
Al Franken
United States Senator



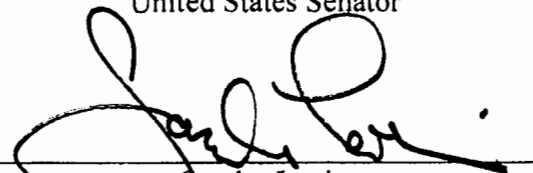
Charles Schumer
United States Senator



Kristen E. Gillibrand
United States Senator




Brian Higgins
Member of Congress



Sander Levin
Member of Congress



Gwen Moore
Member of Congress



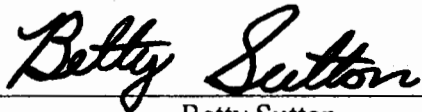
Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress



Gary Peters
Member of Congress



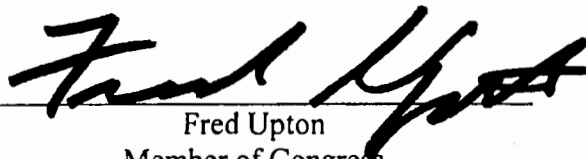
Judy Biggert
Member of Congress



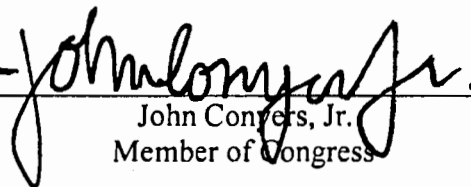
Betty Sutton
Member of Congress



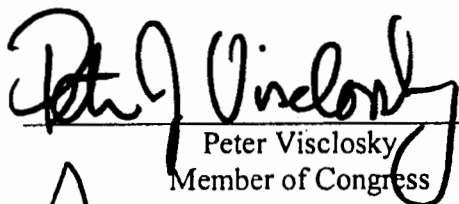
Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



Fred Upton
Member of Congress



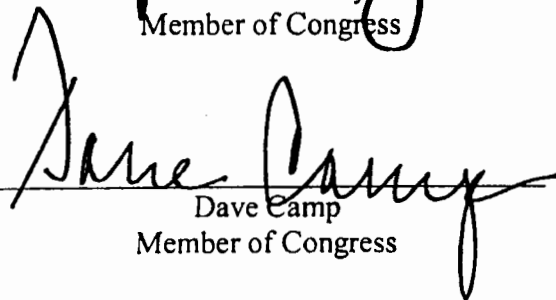
John Conyers, Jr.
Member of Congress



Peter Visclosky
Member of Congress



Candice Miller
Member of Congress



Dave Camp
Member of Congress



Mike Rogers
Member of Congress



Tammy Baldwin
Member of Congress



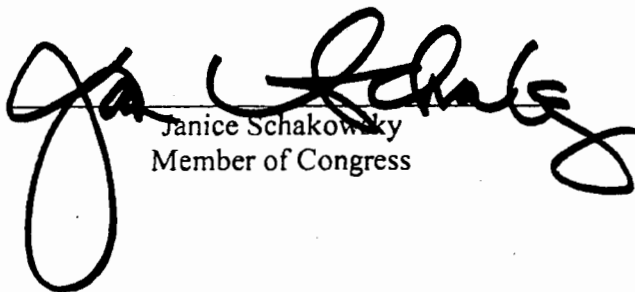
Dale Kildee
Member of Congress



Steven LaTourette
Member of Congress



Kathy Dahlkemper
Member of Congress



Janice Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Mark Schauer
Member of Congress



Thaddeus McCotter
Member of Congress



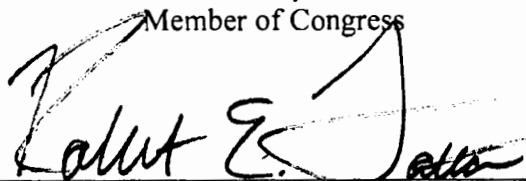
Pete Hoekstra
Member of Congress



Tim Ryan
Member of Congress



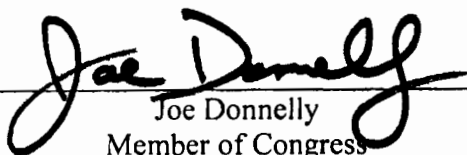
Bart Stupak
Member of Congress



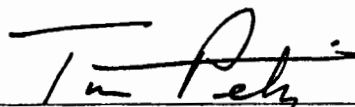
Robert Latta
Member of Congress



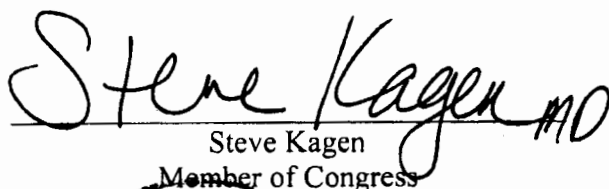
Charles Wilson
Member of Congress



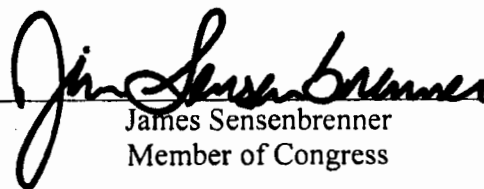
Joe Donnelly
Member of Congress



Thomas Petri
Member of Congress



Steve Kagen
Member of Congress



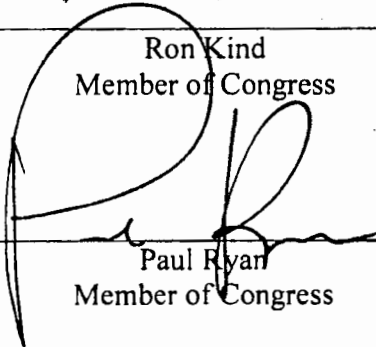
James Sensenbrenner
Member of Congress



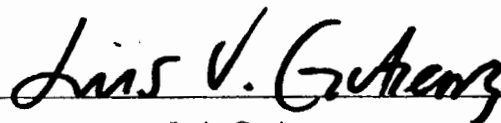
Ron Kind
Member of Congress



Carolyn Kilpatrick
Member of Congress



Paul Ryan
Member of Congress



Luis Gutierrez
Member of Congress

R5-09-001-944C

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

December 17, 2009

Mr. Bharat Mathur
Acting Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 5
77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604

Mr. Steve Chester
Director
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
525 West Allegan Street
P.O. Box 30473
Lansing, MI 48909-7973

Dear Administrator Mathur and Director Chester:

We are writing regarding the ongoing environmental cleanup at the Bay Harbor development and Resort Township's East Park in Resort Township, Emmet County, Michigan. As you know, this property is contaminated with abandoned cement kiln dust piles left by the Penn-Dixie Company, which went bankrupt. The CMS Land Company (CMS), which has redeveloped this property, has been working for the past five years on these environmental concerns, and has spent nearly \$100 million working to clean up the site. CMS currently collects an average of 150,000 gallons of leachate each day from the site, which is then transported by 12-15 tanker trucks to approved disposal sites.

We ask that you expedite your work with CMS regarding the cleanup at East Park and the development at Bay Harbor. We hope that this evaluation will assess all disposal methods, including local disposal options, to protect human health and the environment.

We have two questions we ask you to address. What is the timeline for EPA and DEQ review of the disposal options? How are EPA and DEQ working with CMS to assess all options and to expedite a resolution? We look forward to receiving your prompt responses.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

R5-09-001-944C



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5

77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD

CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

JAN 13 2010

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

R-19J

The Honorable Mark Schauer
Member, U.S. House of Representatives
800 West Ganson Street
Jackson, Michigan 49202

Dear Congressman Schauer:

Thank you for your letter dated December 17, 2009, concerning the Little Traverse Bay Cement Kiln Dust (CKD) Release cleanup site, also known as the Bay Harbor CKD site, in Emmet County, Michigan. The site consists of two parts - the Development CKD Area and the East CKD Area. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is addressing the site under an administrative order on consent (AOC) for removal action that we issued in February 2005 under our CERCLA authority, to Respondents CMS Land Company and CMS Capital, LLC. (collectively CMS) and the Bay Harbor Company. EPA considers Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) to be our active partner in this matter.

You have inquired about EPA's (and MDEQ's) timeline for review of potential cleanup actions at the site, as well as how the Agencies are working with CMS to expedite the evaluation process. Our current plan is to provisionally approve CMS' evaluation of long-term engineering controls for the East CKD Area within the next few weeks. For the Development CKD Area, we expect to complete the investigation and evaluation process by the end of 2010 so that cleanup plan selection for the site can begin at that time. Our work with CMS to generate key environmental data, using good science, regarding seasonal variability of mercury loading to Lake Michigan will be a central focus of this work at both the East and the Development CKD Areas.

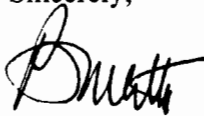
You have also asked that EPA and MDEQ expedite our work with CMS at the Bay Harbor site and to perhaps bring about a more local solution for disposal of collected leachate. I assure you that EPA has made completion of the investigative work at the Bay Harbor site a high priority and has devoted substantial resources to working with CMS to complete this work. Once complete, this will allow the State of Michigan to negotiate an agreement with CMS to implement a final response action. EPA agrees that local leachate disposal options should be strongly considered for incorporation into a final response action. Currently, the Agencies are working to ensure that the final cleanup alternatives being evaluated for the site will satisfy the stated goals in the AOC including, among other things, integrating the interim response activities as appropriate, preventing unacceptable exposures to surface water and sediment impacted by the CKD waste material, and preventing unacceptable risk from human direct contact with the CKD waste material.

EPA commends CMS for its high level of commitment to carrying out the terms of the AOC at the Bay Harbor site over the past 5 years, which include determination of the nature and extent of all releases at the site, construction and operation of an interim leachate collection system to prevent release of leachate into the lake, and its current efforts to evaluate potential long-term engineering solutions and cleanup alternatives to permanently address public health threats and threats to the environment caused by leachate releases.

Lastly, the Agencies have significantly expanded our efforts to foster community understanding of the regulatory process and promote transparency. We have encouraged CMS to participate. The regional stakeholders have formed a community advisory group, which has rapidly come up to speed on the local solution and project schedule issues. We expect that this group, which consists of a broad cross-section of regional constituencies, including tribal interests and the City of Petoskey, will continue to provide feedback and constructively contribute to the Agencies and CMS as we move forward.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact Mary Canavan or Ronna Beckmann, the Region 5 Congressional Liaisons, at (312) 886-3000.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Mathur', written in a cursive style.

Bharat Mathur
Acting Regional Administrator

cc: Jim Sygo, Acting Director, MDEQ
C. Eades, OCIR

*AL 10-000-9785*MARK SCHAUER
7TH DISTRICT, MICHIGANCOMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2207SUBCOMMITTEES:
CONSERVATION, CREDIT, ENERGY, AND RESEARCHSUBCOMMITTEES:
AVIATION
HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT
RAILROADS, PIPELINES AND
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

June 11, 2010

Joyce K. Frank
Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 3426
Washington, DC 20460
by fax: (202) 501 - 1519

Dear Ms. Frank,

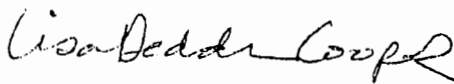
I am contacting you at the request of my boss, Congressman Mark Schauer (MI-07).

We have a business known as Kilbourne Farms that is located in our congressional district. It owns and farms 550 acres of land, and it also has four active oil wells on the property. Kilbourne Farms would like to partner with a Canadian company to build a huge greenhouse – a 25 acre structure – on the property. The greenhouse would incorporate an innovative climate system to use the natural gas that is currently flared off the oil wells to instead produce hot water and heat for the facility, and CO2 for the plants. The facility would allow for efficient, pollution-free, year-round farm production. I understand that similar systems are currently in use in Canada, and that there is currently a 12.5 acre greenhouse like this in operation in Lewiston NY (H2Gro Greenhouses LLC).

The total cost to construct the greenhouse and its climate system is estimated at approximately \$25 million.

The Congressman would be grateful if you could direct us toward any programs through the Environmental Protection Agency that could possibly help finance a project of this sort. Thank you in advance for any assistance you can provide.

Sincerely,



Lisa Dedden Cooper
Economic Development Director
Office of Congressman Mark Schauer (MI07)
800 W. Ganson Street, Jackson MI 49202
phone (517) 780-9075 x17
fax (517) 780-9081
lisa.dedden.cooper@mail.house.gov

WASHINGTON OFFICE
1408 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
PHONE (202) 225-6276
FAX (202) 225-6281

JACKSON OFFICE
800 WEST GANSON STREET
JACKSON, MI 49202
PHONE (517) 780-9075
FAX (517) 780-9081



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUL 15 2010

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

The Honorable Mark Schauer
U.S. House of Representatives
800 W. Ganson Street
Jackson, Michigan 49202

Dear Congressman Schauer:

Thank you for the letter from your office signed by Lisa Dedden Cooper and dated June 11, 2010, requesting information on U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) programs that offer financial assistance to projects aimed at achieving greenhouse gas emissions reductions. My office has been asked to respond to your letter.

EPA's Office of Air and Radiation (OAR), does offer funding opportunities to advance greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction objectives. One particular program that might be applicable to the Kilbourne Farms project that you describe is our Climate Showcase Communities Grant Program. Through this Program we are offering assistance to local and tribal governments in developing plans, conducting demonstrations, and implementing projects that reduce GHG emissions while achieving additional environmental, economic, public health, and/or community benefits.

For more information on the Climate Showcase Communities Grant Program and applicant eligibility requirements, please visit our web site at www.epa.gov/statelocalclimate/local/showcase. Additional information on this and other opportunities is also on our web site at http://www.epa.gov/oar/grants_funding.html.

Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions please contact me or your staff may call Diann Frantz in EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at (202) 564-3668.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gina McCarthy", is written over a horizontal line.

Gina McCarthy
Assistant Administrator

Davis, CatherineM

From: Davis, CatherineM
Sent: Wednesday, July 17, 2013 3:46 PM
To: 'Zea, Tracy'
Cc: Pawlow, Jon; Gordon, Matthew
Subject: RE: Quick Question

Hi Tracy,

Thanks for your email. EPA's 2006 Community Water System Survey provides statistical data on characteristics of Community Water Systems, including rate structures and billing profiles:
<http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/drinkingwater/pws/cwssvr.cfm>. EPA developed the survey database to provide critical data to support regulatory development and implementation. The specific information on rate structures and billing profiles is in volume two
(<http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/drinkingwater/pws/upload/cwssreportvolumell2006.pdf>). Table 71 (PDF pages 164-165) shows the percentage of systems and their rate structure, and Table 72 (PDF pages 166-167) has the same information for non-residential rate structure.

We are not aware of a national comprehensive list of cities and towns that use "flat fee" billing methods. Please let me know if you have questions or need more information.

Regards,
Cathy Davis
Office of Congressional and
Intergovernmental Relations
202-564-2703
davis.catherinem@epa.gov

Send mail to:
US Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
MC: 1305A
Washington, DC 20460

From: Zea, Tracy [<mailto:Tracy.Zea@mail.house.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, July 16, 2013 2:16 PM
To: Davis, CatherineM
Cc: Pawlow, Jon; Gordon, Matthew
Subject: Quick Question

Hey Cathy –

Does the EPA have any data regarding how many water utility customers are still using a "flat fee" paying method versus a "pay by meter" approach? More specifically, what cities and towns are still using the "flat fee" method?

If not, do you know of any other organizations that might have this information?

Thank you for your help, it is greatly appreciated

Sincerely,

Tracy Zea

**Tracy Zea
Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
United States House of Representatives
B-370A Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515**

Davis, CatherineM

From: Davis, CatherineM
Sent: Thursday, August 15, 2013 2:44 PM
To: Kaiser, Sven-Erik; Pawlow, Jon; Spraul, Greg; Borum, Denis
Subject: RE: House T&I Question of Interpretation of a Provision in the CWA

Hi Jon,

Thank you for your email regarding Section 211(a) of the Clean Water Act. Based on 40 CFR 35.2116 (below), the applicable date is October 18, 1972, when determining whether a collection system or a community is considered to be "existing" for purposes of Section 211(a). Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

§ 35.2116

Collection system

Except as provided in § 35.2032(c), if the project involves collection system work, such work:

(a) Shall be for the replacement or major rehabilitation of an existing collection system which was not build with Federal funds awarded on or after October 18, 1972, and shall be necessary to the integrity and performance of the complete waste treatment system; or

(b) Shall be for a **new cost-effective collection system in a community in existence on October 18, 1972**, which has sufficient existing or planned capacity to adequately treat such collected wastewater and where the bulk (generally two-thirds) of the expected flow (flow from existing plus future residential users) will be from the resident population on October 18, 1972. The expected flow will be subject to the limitations for interceptors contained in § 35.2123. If assistance is awarded, the grantee shall provide assurances that the existing population will connect to the collection system within a reasonable time after project completion.

Regards,
Cathy Davis
Office of Congressional and
Intergovernmental Relations
202-564-2703
davis.catherinem@epa.gov

Send mail to:
US Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
MC: 1305A
Washington, DC 20460

From: Kaiser, Sven-Erik
Sent: Wednesday, August 14, 2013 8:37 AM
To: Pawlow, Jon; Spraul, Greg; Borum, Denis; Davis, CatherineM
Subject: House T&I Question of Interpretation of a Provision in the CWA

Jon – we're on it and will get you a response. Please let me know if any additional questions. Thanks,
Sven

Sven-Erik Kaiser
U.S. EPA
Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW (1305A)
Washington, DC 20460
202-566-2753

From: Pawlow, Jon [mailto:Jon.Pawlow@mail.house.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2013 5:22 PM
To: Kaiser, Sven-Erik
Subject: > Question of Interpretation of a Provision in the CWA

As it turns out, it appears that both Greg Spraul and Denis Borum are out of the office. Hopefully you can help me on this query.

Thanks for your help!

From: Pawlow, Jon
Sent: Tuesday, August 13, 2013 5:19 PM
To: 'Spraul, Greg'; Denis R. Borum (borum.denis@epa.gov)
Subject: > Question of Interpretation of a Provision in the CWA

Gentlemen,

I have a question to ask regarding the interpretation of a provision in Section 211(a) of the Clean Water Act.

Section 211(a) of the Clean Water Act ("Sewage Collection Systems") provides that "No grant shall be made for a sewage collection system under this title unless such grant (1) is for replacement or major rehabilitation of an existing collection system and is necessary to the total integrity and performance of the waste treatment works serving such community, or (2) is for a new collection system in an existing community with sufficient existing or planned capacity adequately to treat such collected sewage and is consistent with section 201 of this Act."

> QUESTION: With regard to the terms "existing collection system" and "existing community" in Section 211(a), what is the date of reference that EPA considers when determining whether a collection system or a community is considered to be "existing" for purposes of Section 211(a)? Is it the date of enactment in 1972? Or some other date?

Thanks for your help in finding the answer to my question. I haven't been able to find anything specific on this issue.

Please contact me if there are any questions.

Best regards,

Jon

Jon Pawlow
Jonathan R Pawlow, Esq.
Counsel
Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives